

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2852

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING, OCTOBER 28, 1975 (SALT TWO-831)

1. ARTICLE X (NEW SYSTEMS BANS): KLOSSON ASKED WHETHER SOVIETS HAD FURTHER COMMENT ON US PROPOSALS FOR SUBPARAGRAPH (C) (SEABED SYSTEMS) OR (D) (ORBITAL SYSTEMS). KARPOV SAID SOVIETS HAD PREVIOUSLY ADVANCED ARGUEMENTS TO SUPPORT INCLUSION OF CRUISE MISSILE LAUNCHERS IN SEABED SYSTEMS BAN. USSR WAS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING US PROPOSAL REGARDING MISSILES "SPECIALLY DESIGNED" FOR SEABED LAUNCHERS, AS WELL AS US PROPOSAL ON ORBITAL SYSTEMS.

2. ARTICLE VII (TEST AND TRAINING LAUNCHERS): KARPOV SAID SOVIET VIEWS ON LATEST US PROPOSAL FOR ARTICLE VII WILL BE PRESENTED AT NEXT PLENARY SESSION.

3. ARTICLE II.1 (ICBM LAUNCHER DEFINITION): KLOSSON SOLICITED SOVIET ELABORATION AS TO WHAT CRITERION WOULD DEFINE AN ICBM LAUNCHER UNDER SOVIET PROPOSED LANGUAGE, AND REITERATED US QUESTION FROM LAST DRAFTING GROUP MEETING (SALT TWO 827) REGARDING INCLUSION OF ALL LAUNCHERS "OF A TYPE" AS ICBM LAUNCHERS IF ONE SUCH LAUNCHER WERE DETERMINED TO BE A LAUNCHER OF ICBMS. KARPOV

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AVOIDED DIRECT REPLY, CITING INSTEAD INTERIM AGREEMENT PRECEDENT

FOR DEFINING ICBM LAUNCHERS. AFTER REPEATED QUESTIONING, KARPOV SAID BOTH SIDES HAVE PROCEEDED FROM UNDERSTANDING THAT LAND-BASED ICBM LAUNCHERS ARE LAUNCHERS OF STRATEGIC BALLISTIC MISSILES WHICH "USE" (ISPOL'ZUYUT) MISSILES OF RANGES OVER 5500 KMS. KARPOV BELIEVED THIS CRITERION WOULD REMAIN EFFECTIVE THROUGH 1985, AND THAT ANY AMBIGUITY COULD BE ADDRESSED IN SCC. KLOSSON NOTED THAT SIDES SHOULD STRIVE NOW TO LESSEN POSSIBILITIES OF FUTURE AMBIGUITIES ARISING IN SCC.

4. "CAPABLE OF A RANGE": IN RESPONSE TO KLOSSON'S QUESTION, KARPOV STATED THAT THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PHRASE "CAPABLE OF A RANGE" WAS IDENTICAL IN MEANING TO THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE PHRASE "S DAL'NOSTYU" (WITH A RANGE). HE NOTED THAT THIS UNDERSTANDING EXISTED UNDER THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, AND SAID IT COULD BE EXTENDED TO COVER THE NEW AGREEMENT AS WELL.

5. NEXT MEETING WILL BE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31. JOHNSON

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